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SHORT COMMUNICATION

Dryinus pumilio Puton (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae) in Surrey.—A single example of this rare bug was swept from rideside weedy grassland in Preserve Cope immediately to the east of Polesden Lacey (TQ138522), 10.ix.1996. This wood is probably of plantation origin, having at present mature standard oaks of very uniform age plus a mixture of exotic tree species. The canopy is very sparse due to severe storm damage in 1987 and subsequent heavy suppression of any regrowth by rabbit grazing. The wood lies on the clay-with-flints cap of the North Downs and the soils are neutral. The grassland includes frequent *Hypericum perforatum*, a feature of other sites mentioned by Kirby (1992). This is a nationally scarce bug with a thin scattering of reports across lowland southern Britain from Kent to Monmouthshire, and equally scarce throughout its range—it appears to be confined to western Europe. So far as I am aware this is the first record from Surrey.—K. N. A. ALEXANDER, National Trust, 33 Sheep Street, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1RQ.

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